

Fox, Susan

From: Dan Lennon 3 [danlennon3@bresnan.net]
Sent: Friday, January 27, 2012 11:31 AM
To: Fox, Susan
Subject: RE: Commissioner of Political Practices

Lennon answers. See below.

From: Fox, Susan [mailto:sfox@mt.gov]
Sent: Friday, January 27, 2012 9:01 AM
To: 'Billy Byrnes'; 'Gary Carlson'; 'Dan Lennon 3'; 'beau wright'
Subject: Commissioner of Political Practices

Hi candidates,

Thank you for your information regarding the Commissioner of Political Practices position. Here are the questions that the selection committee would like you to answer. You can reply by email and I will make sure the answers are distributed. Thanks, Susan

1. Are you familiar with restrictions Montana law imposes upon the activities of an individual holding the office of COPP?

Presuming we are referring to the sections 1-5b of 13-37-108 Montana Code Annotated, I am fully familiar with the restrictions placed upon my behavior.

2. What is your legal writing experience?

Legal writing is a specialized format with which I am most familiar. As a sociologist who specializes in law and legal processes, I not only have to read a great deal of law, but often write in such a "legal" style.

3. Have you ever been party to a complaint filed with the COPP?

No.

4. What is your current or past involvement with either the campaign of a candidate or a ballot initiative?

The last time I was involved with a political campaign, as an unpaid consultant, was with the Territorial Senatorial campaign of John Salas, a candidate for the Guam Legislature, in 1996.

5. Have you been affiliated with a political party or political action committee? If yes, how will this affiliation affect your ability to render impartial decisions on complaints filed against candidates, PACs, and ballot initiatives?

No.

6. What is your opinion of the current candidate contribution limits?

While I believe my opinion is irrelevant, until the issues raised between the Citizens United case of the US Supreme Court (130 S. Ct. 876), and the decision of the Montana Supreme Court in Western Tradition Partnership (2012 MT 328) are resolved, I would see it as my duty to enforce state law until such time a resolution between the two decisions is achieved.

7. Have you or a family member been involved in the legislative process as a lobbyist?

No.

8. In your opinion, do further regulations or restrictions need to be placed on lobbyists' activities?

Again, I find my opinion irrelevant. I would enforce existing Montana law, which is quite exacting and detailed.

Thank you, Susan.

Dan Lennon

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